

# THE GATEWAY

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KATIE THWEDE

Showingcase some of the best hoops in recent memory, it took Dean Whalen (10) and the Bears three games to beat Calgary in the division final. See page 7.

## Fine reduced in early election complaint

JHENIFER PABILLANO  
News Editor

A fine levied on SU presidential candidate Mat Brechtel before Reading Week was reduced from \$75 to \$10 after appeal.

The Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement Board (DIE Board), the Students' Union's highest court of appeal, upheld the original ruling of chief elections official Alex Taylor, who charged Brechtel with pre-campaigning during a CJSR radio interview on 5 February.

But the fine was reduced as DIE Board did not feel it appropriately reflected Brechtel's pre-campaigning violation.

Taylor's complaint stemmed from a

CJSR interview with reporter Sherisse Szymczak, where Szymczak asked the question, "Do you think that your success with the add/drop deadline would bolster your campaign for Students' Union President?"

While CJSR's news program aired an edited answer containing just the first part of Brechtel's response (a long pause and the sentence, "That's an interesting question"), the program was clear that Brechtel did provide a full answer, and it was edited out at his request after he consulted with the CRO.

Although the answer did not air, Taylor ruled that it constituted pre-campaigning to Szymczak, as she was an undergraduate student whose vote could be swayed by his comments.

## CASA National Director resigns

Internal breach of confidence reason for resignation

IRA DUBINSKY  
The McGill Daily

MONTRÉAL (CUP) — Liam Arbuckle, National Director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA), tendered his resignation last Friday.

Accusations of an internal breach of confidence have been cited as the reason for Arbuckle's resignation.

"The board of directors received

allegations that Liam had potentially tampered with the National Director selection process by disclosing confidential information to one of the candidates," said Tyler MacLeod, chair of CASA's board.

"The board found that while information had been disclosed, constituting a breach of confidence, the information was not determined to be of material assistance to the candidate," said MacLeod.

The candidate, Joshua Morgan from the University of Western Ontario, was deemed by the Board to be free of any misconduct, and will continue as a candidate in the National Director

selection. The new National Director will be selected at CASA's 5 March Internal Review Conference held in Winnipeg.

Arbuckle was suspended by the board on Wednesday, 29 January but the reasons for the suspension were not made public until Friday, 14 February. MacLeod will act as interim National Director until the new National Director takes office on 1 May.

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations is a national student lobby group that represents 21 post-secondary student associations across Canada.

## U of A prof hungry why you're hungry

LEAH COLMERS  
Associate News Editor

A discovery made by University of Alberta pharmacology professor and Heritage Medical scientist Dr Bill Colmers has taken a bite out of the question of what makes us hungry.

Colmers and his colleagues found a hormone called ghrelin in the hypothalamus, the area of the brain known to control appetite. Ghrelin, a hormone linked to the urge to eat, was previously believed to only be produced in the stomach.

Colmers' study of ghrelin in the brain led him to find that the hormone causes and coordinates the release of neuro-peptide Y (NPY), another brain chemical that causes hunger. The interaction between the chemicals is responsible for an increased appetite.

The information emerged from Colmers' previous research with NPY. Explained Colmers, ghrelin acts like a

"What we're trying to do is get a better handle on what it is that tells the brain we're hungry, that we want to eat instead of saying we're really full."

DR BILL COLMERS, U OF A  
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACOLOGY

key and NPY acts like a lock. When ghrelin binds with NPY, it unlocks or releases the hormone that signals hunger.

The new findings were published in the scientific journal *Neuron* on 20 February. Ghrelin, discovered in 2000 by Japanese scientists, was previously believed to only be produced in the stomach.

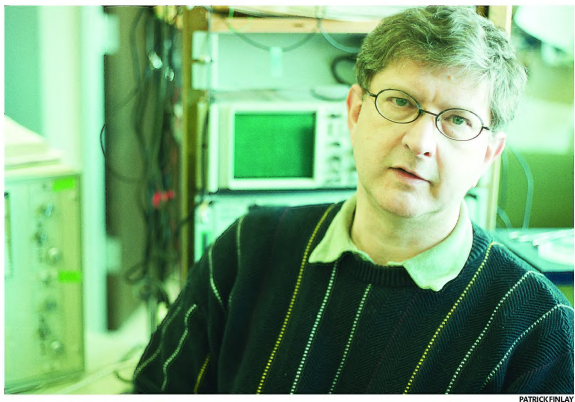
"It's been an interesting set of discoveries that we've been able to expand upon," Colmers beamed.

It's also a set of discoveries that may be able to combat a growing threat to public well-being: last year Statistics Canada reported 47.9 per cent of Canadians are overweight (have at least 25 per cent body fat).

By studying the signals in the brain that cause the sensations of hunger and satiation, Colmers hopes to ultimately develop a weight-loss treatment that people can use while maintaining a regimen of exercise and healthy diet.

"What we're trying to do is get a better handle on what it is that tells the brain we're hungry, that we want to eat instead of saying we're really full. If you've had a big meal, generally you can't look at food for a while. So what are the signals that work in the brain to cause the sensation that comes about?"

PLEASE SEE HUNGER • PAGE 2



PATRICK PHILLIPS

APPETITE FOR RESEARCH U of A pharmacology professor Bill Colmers found a hormone in the brain causes hunger.



5 Where there's the ETs, you'll find positive experiences—or at least, that's what they claim. Sabrina Delhon kills that lie in a 550 word piece of logic.

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**Outside**

Tuesday Mainly cloudy; "Straight up" Laker Girl, High 8, Low -19  
Wednesday Sun and cloud mix; "Spellbinding" Jackson choreography; High 8, Low -15  
Thursday Snow/ditch "cold hearted" Emilio; High -11, Low -17  
Friday Sun and cloud potpourri; "forever your girl" on American Idol; High -9, Low -15  
Source: Environment Canada



**From the archives**

Amid chants of "Ice Ice baby," and a hail of beer bottles, Vanilla Ice took the stage at Cowboys. The German played a mix of new and old tunes but spent most of the night under the lights so to speak, during weak-spirited renditions of his early 90s hits. To the shock of unprepared bouncers, Ice's chill beats elicited a frenzied mosh pit and spills of fans onstage. But post-show Ice gave the crowd the cold shoulder, and slipped out without an encore.

1998



10 You're young, You're free, You're in your prime! Shouldn't you be having fun drinking the devil's brew and chasing lethally eougers?



12 How does an author get all caught up in the Oscar frenzy? By writing. The Hours. It seems the details are resplendent in ink in A&E.

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Students' Union Building  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T6G 2J7Telephone 780.492.5168  
Fax 780.492.6665  
E-mail gateway@gatewayualberta.ca

## editorial staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF David "Skip" Zeibin  
editor@gatewayualberta.ca 492.5168MANAGING EDITOR Raymond Biesinger  
managing@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6665NEWS EDITOR Jennifer Pabilano  
news@gatewayualberta.ca 492.3708

## ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITORS

Leah Collins  
leah@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6664  
Kristine Ovrarm  
kristine@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6664ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR Adam Rozenhart  
entertainment@gatewayualberta.ca 492.7052SPORTS EDITOR Brendan Procd  
sports@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6662FEATURES EDITOR Heather Adair  
features@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6664PHOTO EDITOR Patrick Finlay  
photo@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6668PRODUCTION EDITOR Iain Ilich  
production@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6661CIRCULATION MANAGER Daniel Kaszior  
circulation@gatewayualberta.ca 492.5168

## business staff

ADVERTISING SALES REPRESENTATIVE  
Nicki Boyenko  
sales@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6700AD/GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
Dave Leiriger  
dave@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6667BUSINESS MANAGER  
Don Iverson  
office@gatewayualberta.ca 492.6669OFF-CAMPUS DISTRIBUTION "STAR" CO  
starco@gatewayualberta.ca 490.8242  
#232 1105 Jasper Avenue, Edmonton, T5K 0L5

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## colophon

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## contributors

Neil Parham, Alan Koyne, John Whelan, Chris Roudet, Jocelyn Armstrong, Swetlana Yezhov, Adam Kohn, Derek Ford, Victor Sharma, NB Belland, Eric Ulrich, Zoi Tracy, Greville, Megan Simko, Melvin Backstrom, Ari Hagmann, Lillian Delfino, Bryan Lee, Katie Twiss, Zac Bart, Matt Fehrer, Loren Lane, Maylene Lowland, and the old Red Star Karaoke, eight-time Grammy award-winning Karaoke Jones.

## ECOS tries to raise awareness... about itself

New SU sustainability office offers ecological education, highlights waste areas, and wants a campus garden

TOM BARBER  
News Writer

The Environmental Co-ordination Office of Students (ECOS) is the best kept secret on campus, but it's not by choice.

That's why ECOS, a student service and a sustainability office that implements green issues on campus, is making self-promotion their major project, letting students know of their presence on campus and encouraging student participation. A new service for students this year, ECOS finds its humble roots in the student-run Green Campus, another environmental project originally spearheaded by current Students' Union President Mike Hudema.

This year, ECOS is promoting a project to educate students about paper consumption on campus, and encourage them to use both sides, as well as urging them to use the recycling bins around campus for unused and unwanted paper. Since over 18 billion sheets of paper are consumed on campus each year, ECOS will be targeting those who purchase paper for the University, while working in co-operation with Facilities Management, the Administration's counterpart to ECOS.

"It's not an economic disadvantage to go to post-consumer paper," says ECOS Director Geneva Rae. "It's not that much more [cost], and you're not only using recycled paper but you're also supporting that industry which is really important as well."

Another project in the works is a focus on energy and water conservation. The campaign includes having 1000 bathrooms on campus redecorated with student-friendly signs that encourage turning off the lights when not in use and reporting leaky faucets. "Students don't often shut off the lights

in bathrooms because they don't know if they [are allowed to]," states Rae. The signs will also contain several facts about energy and water consumption on campus.

**"If we are to move to a more sustainable future, we're going to need to start educating students to at least have a minute amount of ecological knowledge."**

GENEVA RAE, ECOS DIRECTOR

ECOS Assistant Director Dwayne Wohlgenuth would also like to implement a "campus garden" that would provide students with a chance to learn about alternative agricultural practices. The campus garden project will provide students with a low-cost food source in the form of a fruit or vegetable cart: the proceeds of campus

garden sales would then be reinvested into the ECOS office to help the organization reduce operating costs.

Overall, ECOS will be promoting environmental education, including a basic understanding of true-cost accounting: asking oneself where their food comes from and what form of energy or labour was used to bring that product to their region, and investigating whether buying local products would be less detrimental to our society and our world.

And ultimately, the service hopes to encourage students to take real action in their world. Rae believes the university years are when individuals are more open to change than at any other point in their lives.

"The University provides a microcosm of society," says Rae. "We have housing, food, [educational issues], we have everything the globe has, and we see the campus as a testing ground. ... If we are to move to a more sustainable future, we're going to need to start educating students to at least have a minute amount of ecological knowledge."

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Compiled by Kristine Ovrarm

U OF OTTAWA RECEIVES MONEY FROM AMAZON.COM

OTTAWA (CUP) — University of Ottawa professor Michael Geist has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from Amazon.com to start Canada's first Internet policy and public interest litigation clinic. Critics of the deal, however, are left wondering if there are any strings attached.

The clinic will inform and educate the public on matters of Internet policies and rules. It will also be an educational tool for law students who wish to intern at the clinic.

Raquel Chisholm, president of the Common Law Students' Association, believes the clinic will be advantageous to U of O law students.

However, Rick Telfer, the Ontario national executive representative for the Canadian Federation of Students, disagrees.

"We have seen similar kinds of dona-

tions at other universities. It is a problem because it speaks to the increased corporatization of our campus," said Telfer.

"You often find that these deals come with strings, including what gets taught in the classrooms. I don't doubt that there is pressure on the curriculum."

The University of Ottawa is the first Canadian university to join other American colleges in receiving funding for this project.

Katherine Lemay, The Fulcrum

U MANITOBA LAW TUITION JUMPS 91 PER CENT OVER NEXT THREE YEARS

WINNIPEG (CUP) — A whopping 91 per cent tuition fee increase in the University of Manitoba's law program has become a reality after both the provincial government and University Board of Governors approved the student-backed plan.

The new fees will cost students more than \$8300. Current law tuition fees of \$4834 will rise by approximately \$1000 this fall, \$1000 the following year, and \$2000 in the 2005-06 academic year.

The roughly 300 current law students previously voted 67 per cent in favour of the increase in a January referendum. However, the new fee structure will only apply to students admitted to the fac-

ulty for the 2003-04 session.

The faculty's position was that the increase was needed to improve programs. It is believed that it will not present a barrier to students wishing to enter law. Thirty per cent of the increase is to be returned to students in the form of bursaries.

Andrea Bellemare, The Manitoban

MORE THAN 100,000 MARCH IN MONTREAL AGAINST WAR IN IRAQ

MONTREAL (CUP) — Montréal echoed with the cry of "Non à la guerre; Oui à la paix" on 15 February as more than 100,000 people protested a possible war with Iraq. Despite the minus-20 degree weather, the immense crowd took over the downtown, marching, chanting slogans, singing songs and waving signs, all calling for peace.

It was a similar scene in major centres around the world with more than 80,000 in the streets of Toronto, 100,000 in Sydney and an estimated two million people protesting in Rome. London saw its largest-ever anti-war demonstration with 750,000 people.

Though organized by Québec anti-war coalition Échec à la guerre, many other groups such as Greenpeace, the

NDP and even a group of Basilians came to show their opposition to war. The rally also attracted singer and peace activist Bruce Cockburn and Bloc Québécois leader Luc Dupeux.

Ned Richardson-Little, Québec Bureau

EXPATRIATE AMERICANS SEND HOME ANTI-WAR MESSAGE

MONTREAL (CUP) — Three days after the city played host to the largest anti-war protest in its recent history, members of Montréal's American expatriate community were out in the cold, waving placards that read "no war" and "no war in our name" in front of the US Consulate.

The protest was the second gathering of concerned American citizens living in Montréal, 20 demonstrators paraded peacefully in front of the US Consulate and feigned a "no war in Iraq" banner into the view of Consulate employees.

"It's not the numbers that count; it's the fact that we have a presence outside the belly of the beast," said Audrey Schirmer, originally from Boston, who organized the rally. Schirmer said the protests would happen every Tuesday until the threat of war has dissipated.

Phillip Todd, The McGill Daily

## Don't expect a diet pill from hunger hormone, says prof

HUNGER • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But Colmers doesn't expect a ghrelin miracle diet pill to appear anytime soon.

"People would like to have it [diet pill], but I don't know if ghrelin receptors are the right target," he said.

"My guess is that a single pill probably won't do it so far. Maybe it will, I'm constantly surprised, but my guess is that it will be a combination of medicines and other behavioural modifications, like learning to be more sensitive to signals that your body is full and combining that with a sensible diet which we all supposedly know is good for you. But people don't buy into it. Even if we could suppress appetite with pills for a long time, in the long run it probably wouldn't be good for you."

Colmers expects it will be another 20 years before there is a breakthrough diet treatment of this nature.

He describes his research, which is partially funded by the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research, as

only addressing a small aspect of the greater scheme, and he foresees a complete understanding of ghrelin as being a long way off.

This, he says, leaves the question of how much we need to know before a successful diet medicine or treatment can be made.

"When ghrelin was discovered, there was a great to-do about it, but this paper shows that even if you know about something, you still don't know a whole lot about it, how it works."

But ultimately, Colmers states the study is important for its contribution to understanding fundamental energy drives and energy balance.

"Two of the most important things an animal can do is acquire enough food and then reproduce. Everything else is basically a luxury, if you think in evolutionary terms. The more we understand about how this ancient and important system works, the more we'll understand about how the brain works and how the brain interacts with the body."

## SU ELECTION CANDIDATES

Unwanted speakers hitting your classroom? Posters and handbills invading your space? It's all right, it just means the SU elections are here! And if you're curious, these are the kids responsible for the mess...

PRESIDENT	VP STUDENT LIFE	VP EXTERNAL
Mike Reid	Jadene Mah	Bequie Lake
Geneva Rae	Matt Oberhoffner	Chris Samuel
Steve Smith	Blair Dent	
PEPSI		
George Slomp		VP ACADEMIC
Mat Brechtel		Matt Robertson
Ryan Adam		Janet Lo
George W Bushwhacker		Chris Jones
Labatt Man and the Kokanee Kid		Wesley Sharma
		Trevor Miller

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS REP

Scott Winder  
Roman Kotovych

## VP OPS &amp; FINANCE

Tyler Botten





## Keep your heels on the vipers

BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, you will already know it's election time. Hundreds of trees worth of paper will festoon the walls of every conceivably allowable surface on campus, telling you to vote this way or that. You'll probably see one or two candidates coming into your classes, increasing their visibility, shaking some hands and kissing a few babies.

But stop for a second. There aren't babies in every class, and all the shiny colours and bright smiles might make you feel warm and tingly inside, but learning about each candidate's platform is vitally important. Don't just find out what each nominee wants to accomplish, ask how they plan to follow through on their promises.

You can ask this question when the wily hacks come into your classes, or you can flag them down when you see them in the hallways. Always ready to gain rights to the ballot of a new voter, they will listen to your questions with the utmost seriousness. But don't let your eyes get full of stars as you meet a budding campus celebrity—ask them hard questions about their campaigns and platforms.

If a candidate tells you that he/she is going to reduce the price of an 8.5-by-11 photocopy to 5 cents, find out how the person plans on doing this. Ask them what needs to be cut to make copies cheaper. If they can't give a good answer, then the plan probably isn't workable.

If getting a universal bus pass or any other initiative is what you want, find out which candidates not only support the idea, but which ones make it their priority. It's fine and well for them to say they're philosophically in favour of something, but another thing if they actually put the time into making it reality.

If you can't track the eager hopefuls down for a face-to-face, there are several political forums for you to attend where the candidates are able to lay out their platforms with more detail than is available when they get up in front of a classroom. Later in the forums there is a question period where you can ask any questions raised by the candidates speeches and you can hear other people's questions, ones you may not have thought of.

During the final forum in the Horowitz Theatre on 3 March, when all classes are cancelled from 12pm to 1pm just for you to go listen to their speeches, make sure you go. You have little excuse for missing it.

And if you don't take this advice and you learn nothing about the people who hope to run our student government, please don't vote for the candidate who your friend's friend thought was dreamy; just spare the rest of us and skip the voting box.

DANIEL KASZOR  
Circulation Manager

## Sex and virgin eyes

HARDLY AN AUTHORITY ON THE SUBJECT (only about 50 000 responses were gathered, although that's pretty decent), Dures released its annual global sex survey recently and the results are a tad surprising. Canada now ranks fourth on the list of sexual frequency in the world, behind the number-one France yet well ahead of last year's champs, the USA.

A little more surprising, considering what I found at [express.de](http://express.de) and [page3.com](http://page3.com) the other day, is that Canadians even outrank those typically randy Germans and Brits, albeit not by much. Then their websites are newspaper sites that feature "ladies" in rather prominent places in their publications, and I've yet to find a upstanding North American newspaper with the gall to print such "trash."

Ha. Well, trash is pretty subjective it seems. It's odd that in a nation that knows the ol' in-and-out better than many, we're so unwilling to embrace sex for what it is, to talk about it freely and to display it proudly. I don't mean porn, though; I mean, just being comfortable with the subject in any circumstance. Frankly, a little sex-ed more often would probably do us some good considering all the baddy STDs floating around.

So next time man asks how your love life figures, tell her the sex is good and then ask her the same.

DAVID ZEIBIN  
Editor-in-Chief

## LETTERS

### "Where are all the girls?"

In response to the letter written by Mackenzie Wiley ("Where are all the boys?" 13 February), I'd like to ask, "Where are all the girls?" Or rather, where all the girls who aren't involved in a serious relationship?

Every time I notice an attractive girl, I rarely have to wait very long before the boyfriend comes in tow. Every time I manage to work up the nerve to sit next to a young woman in class and manage to stimulate interesting conversation, she very subtly mentions that she has a boyfriend. I begin to wonder if there are any females who don't have boyfriends here at the U of A.

I'm tired of conjuring up my courage to talk to a girl, only to find that I really didn't have a chance in the first place. Therefore, I write in total agreement with Mackenzie's suggestion to revive the practice having a campus newspaper act as a matchmaker for students who would send in their photos and profiles.

Not only might young men like myself be able to find young women who do not have a boyfriend/crush, but the articles written on the success (or utter failures) of the date would make for interesting reading. Good luck Mackenzie!

NICK POWLER  
Arts I

### Surplus of boys on campus, woman deficit

I would like to remind Mackenzie Wiley ("Where are all the boys?" 13 February), there are lots and lots of boys at our school.

While there may be precious few in the department of elementary education, should she wish to visit the departments of physics or mathematical sciences, or any of the engineering departments, she would immediately find a virtual plethora of boys. She is quite welcome to haunt the halls of Physics, CAB, CEB, and so forth, if she desires proof of male existence.

As a math major, and one quite uninterested in men, my own lament is, "Where are all the women?" Thus, I am indebted to Ms Wiley for the reminder that there are departments where the gender imbalance is reversed. Let us leave tomorrow qualified people the questions of why these imbalances exist. Whatever the cause, I would like to see more men in elementary education, and definitely more women in math.

So let's all meet charming people at university, start families, and then encourage our children to fight the cultural conditioning that limits their prospective fields of study.

NATASHA MANDREK  
Science II

### I am 'my own dog' and I agree with Blair

Thanks for the letter, Leah Ungstad ("I disagree with Blair" 4 February). There, you stated that what I have to do is be "my own dog" instead of running with the pack.

Being my own dog doesn't mean I can't run with the pack. I'm a Canadian, I'm a Christian, I'm part

of the Rural Economy faculty at the U of A, I play on a hockey team, I'm in a band, and I'm a Leafs fan. I'm my own dog in a whole bunch of packs. Being a Christian doesn't take anything away from being an individual any more than being a red-blooded Canadian does, or a black-and-white-blooded Leafs fan does, for that matter.

I also completely disagree that happiness and the power to achieve anything cannot come from something external. Sure, it requires a whole lot of internal thought, work and growth. However, to me, relationships are what life is about. That's where I get my motivation, and that's where I get my identity. In fact, all the groups I'm a part of don't really distinguish me from many others with the same things in common.

Things that distinguish me are my relationships. I'm my wife's husband, my parent's son, my friend's friend, and my relationship with God is just as personal and defining of who I am. No one has the exact same relationship, not my friend, not my sister and not Blair. My relationships are unique, and what I mean to them and what they mean to me gives me my identity.

Christianity is not about "buying a neat little package of beliefs." For one thing it's free—you can't buy it. It's also not about taking what someone said word for word and adopting it for myself as a whole without question. It is about learning and growing and developing a relationship with Jesus, who, by the way, definitely did exist, according to all the historical records that seem to be enough evidence for many other things... except for those who don't want to believe that Jesus existed.

My advice is a little different than Leah's. If you want the truth, discover yourself through relationships.

IZZY HUYGEN  
Grad Studies II

### War isn't what Canada, or the world, needs

It seems that as every day passes, we hear more and more about the US and their need to create war and tension in a world already ridden with such. What it all boils down to is this question: what are we doing all this for? It is Bush's own private agenda in trying to leave a mark and do what his daddy didn't, or for some reason, do people actually feel that by creating war, we gain peace?

Obviously, Bush Senior's six-month invasion, embargo, and regulations of Iraq solved nothing, because twelve years later we find ourselves in no better state of existence, but questioning once again—are we going to war with Iraq? Furthermore, we're forced to ponder the questions: where is this going to take us, and what kind of world will our children have to live in?

As Canadians, we may not play as direct of a role in this as the Americans do, but this does not mean our voice is not heard.

Furthermore, the voice we do have is muffled behind a Prime Minister who changes his mind from day to day and essentially feels that if the US is going to take matters into its own hands, gee, well, the Canadians better follow. After all,



that President Bush guy is pretty intimidating.

I'm not saying Iraq's efforts to make chemical and nuclear weapons should be ignored, and certainly not saying I don't support taking action to stop this behaviour. But, what is the best action with the most desirable outcome? Certainly not war—war doesn't make peace, war makes hate, and I'm not sure about you guys, but I feel there's already enough hate in this world.

KAVIN KURTZ  
Political Science I

### Gateway Purity Test cover 'repulsive'

Are you kidding me? That photo of these self-pleasuring vegetarians on the cover of the 13 February Gateway was beyond repulsive.

What was the point—to create controversy and get attention? Why don't you attempt to do that with intelligent journalism instead of despicably trying to get our attention with a ridiculous photo?

I am embarrassed to be a student at the University of Alberta if that's the type of image I am being represented by in public.

KATIE PEARSE  
Physical Education II

### Andre's piece on driving boils my kettle

In reply to Chris André's nonsensical tirade against those maniacal, evil, psychotic, pedestrians ("Learn how to cross the street, buddy," 4 February), maybe Chris shouldn't get all riled-up like that. I'd like to tell a little story.

I was standing on the corner of 101 Street and 102 Avenue, waiting for the northbound walk light when it—an ignorant bastard driver in a big, shiny, 5000-pound death-machine SUV, pulled up on my left. It wanted to turn right, across the path. The light was still red, so it was staring at the traffic on 102 Avenue, waiting to haul ass into the next tiny spot available in the traffic.

By the time the light turned green I assumed it had a brain cell in its head and had noticed me (and five others) waiting. But, no. It still looked to the left, saw the traffic slowing and sped around the corner, almost hitting me. And I was crossing legally.

I take the bus and walk a lot, and the above happens all the time. Funny how that wasn't mentioned

in your little column.

If you can't tell by now, I don't appreciate being referred to as "it" in print, like some target-practice porcupine on the road. If that's your attitude towards pedestrians, maybe you shouldn't be driving your "thousand-pound death-machine" at all.

Oh, and thanks for the safety tips. I just wish they were enough to protect myself from idiot drivers who are oh-so-innocent and buying goods of any wrong-doing by provincial statistics that have an agenda to keep people driving cars and buying gas.

MARK SADOWAY  
Design III

### Better public fire safety measures needed

At the recent nightclub fire in Rhode Island, USA, several survivors said that the emergency lights and exit signs went out shortly after the fire started. How could that be, when these battery-powered lights were just tested two months earlier? The answer lies in where they were located, above the exit doors. They were lost in the smoke that filled the ceiling before it reached to the floor.

There should be exit signs and lights above doors where patrons can see them before any fire starts, or if the problem is just a power failure. However, more exit signs and lights should be at floor level near the exits, so that those crawling along the floor to escape the smoke can head for them.

The airlines have learned this lesson. Along the aisle on the floor are lights that identify exit rows by light and by feel.

All places of public patronage should have emergency exit lights at floor level that can not be hidden by smoke.

TOM TROTTER  
Ottawa, Ontario

Letters to the editor should be dropped off or mailed to room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to [managing@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:managing@gateway.ualberta.ca).

We reserve the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise harmful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.





# 'Happy Lupercalia!'



ALEX KONYE

Valentines wasn't, and isn't usually, a happy time of year for me. True, I'm a lonely crank, but that's not the issue—it's just that there are too many pointless Valentine cards sold, too many rubes walking around wearing red, and far too much "love" in the air. For a change of pace, I'd like to see some Pagan rites kick this fluffy love-fest into a bloody overdrive, just like it was in the good old days.

If you didn't know, Valentine's Day is a far more interesting feast, Lupercalia, Christianized. Here's its quick and dirty history:

Lupercalia is a Roman feast of fertility for the people, their crops, and flocks. The story of its origin has variations, but the one I like is of Romulus and Remus suckling at the teat of a wolf (*lupus* being Latin for "wolf"); a feast day is born. Anyway, priests called "Luperci" assemble at a grotto where the test-sucking was alleged to have taken place, and then they sacrifice goats and dogs (an enemy of the wolf). Then, two young noblemen's sons (symbolizing the twins) get their foreheads stained with the blood from the sacrificial knife. Their foreheads wiped, the boys had to laugh (I guess if they didn't, they'd get *blagged* or something). That done, and having cut the goats' skins into strips, they'd run about naked, lashing all they meet. Young wives were supposed to welcome the whipping, as it was an auspicious

sign.

It shouldn't be hard to reinvent this feast for the 21st century. We'd need a pit, a dog, a wolf, some drunk/naked chicks, and plenty of booze. In fact, I'm sure this is already going on (to an illegal extent) in the cellars of Edmonton's elite saturday. All we need is to do make this happen in Edmonton is get an association going to bring some organization to these events.

No doubt some of you are scoffing at this idea, and asking "what about us students?"

There must be a faculty at the U willing to re-enact the whole naked/bloody/whipping romp, and I'd say it's time for some plucky group to answer my call. Engineers and Aggies have full plates as it is, so I won't tax them any further. But how about a department in the Arts faculty? It would be my supreme delight to see Classics devotees running around on V-day lashing passersby and screaming "Happy Lupercalia!"

Lets print up posters to get things started. We should replace one of the naked guys with a girl for a sense of symmetry. They should be picked at random out of a pool of singles to see if two naked people can find love as they cavort about—à la *Matchmaker* or *Blind Date*. To bring the environmentalists and PETA people on board, instead of sacrificing poor goats, we could send "stop the testing" petitions to Gillette on recycled Hallmark cards.

It's time we get off our duffs and celebrated culture and the diversity therein, with all its drunkenness, nudity, voyeurism, goats and wolves. Anything but the stale Valentine's fare of empty hearts and false sentiment.

# 'Left' and 'right' can't keep abreast of the nuances of politics



MELVIN BACKSTROM

I've been questioning my political beliefs quite a bit recently. Where exactly do my sympathies lie: right-wing or left-wing, conservative or liberal? I wonder this because, in most of the political discussions I've had lately, I find myself inevitably disagreeing, for the most part, with the person I'm talking to.

If I'm debating a person on the right, I put on my best liberal/progressive colours, muster all my knowledge of Marx, Marcuse and Chomsky, and argue passionately against their rigid capitalist ideology. If, on the other hand, I'm arguing with one of my many friends on the left, I find myself vehemently denouncing Marx, among others, and arguing against what I see as fundamental errors in the usual grab-bag of leftist rhetoric.

You could say I'm just playing devil's advocate, but that would imply that I do not, in fact, believe the position I'm arguing and that I have adopted it purely for rhetorical purposes. I wish that were the case, but it's not true. I do believe in the position I'm arguing from, at least in relation to another's oppositional opinion.

So, where do I stand, aside from indecisive? I'm not exactly sure, but it reflects my own dislike of something I think is, unfortunately, far too

common: intellectual complacency.

I would define this as the adoption of and uncritical identification with a particular ideology. It's the process where political viewpoints get translated into something akin to religious dogma, to be adopted by whomever desires to "fit" that particular mould. It inevitably involves a "prophet" (Marx, Adam Smith, Chomsky, Ayn Rand, Zinn, etc.) whose every word is unquestionably taken as the "Truth" through which all reality is explained.

**The conflict in the so-called Israeli "Occupied Territories" is a good example, since it's an issue taken up by most "good" leftists.**

The conflict in the so-called Israeli "Occupied Territories" is a good example, since it's an issue taken up by most "good" leftists. Noam Chomsky, to my dismay, among others, characterizes it as the US-backed oppression of the Palestinians by an "apartheid Zionist" regime. This, despite the fact that Israel has been attacked three times in its history—in 1948, 1967 and 1973—by its Arab neighbours, who were determined to destroy it.

More so, the so-called "Occupied Territories"—the West Bank and the Gaza Strip—cannot be referred to as "occupied" under international law: they are instead disputed. Before the

1967 Six-Day War, they were "occupied" by Jordan and Egypt, and simply marked the ceasefire lines at the end of Israel's War of Independence in 1949.

Interestingly, the Palestinian Liberation Organization (the PLO) was created in 1964, three years before Israel even took control of the territories they are ostensibly trying to liberate. During the various wars, hundreds of thousands of refugees were created. Numbers are disputed, but approximately three-quarter million Arabs fled from what is now Israel.

What is not well-known is that there were at least as many Jews (approximately 870 000 in 1945) living in various Arab states, who fled from those countries during the same time period. The reason you don't hear about these refugees is that Israel, unlike the surrounding Arab states, welcomed them in, gave them citizenship and encouraged them to get on with their lives.

The Arab countries, on the other hand, with the exception of Jordan, refused to do the same and have instead let the Palestinians rot in refugee camps, the countries dreaming of the day when the "Zionist Entity" will be swept into the Mediterranean so they can take back what they believe is rightfully theirs. So much for Arab solidarity.

Yes, it makes for a great slogan at demonstrations—"Free the Occupied Territories" is beautiful in its simplicity—but maybe that's why I can't stand going to rallies, marches or demonstrations: the realities of political discourse inevitably escape the rant of the ideologues.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS!!

### Men's Volleyball CIS National Championship

Thursday, Feb. 27

Manitoba vs. Montréal  
Toronto vs. Saskatchewan  
Alberta vs. Dalhousie  
Laval vs. Calgary

Friday, Feb. 28

Consolation Semi-Final #1  
Consolation Semi-Final #2  
Semi-Final #1  
Semi-Final #2

Saturday, March 1

5th Place Game  
Bronze Medal Game  
Gold Medal Game

### Bears Hockey Playoffs

@ Clare Drake Arena

vs. Calgary Dinos

Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm  
Sunday at 7:00pm if necessary

### Track & Field Canada West Championships

@ Butterdome

Friday 4:00 -10:00  
Saturday 12:15 -4:00

1:00 pm

3:00 pm

6:30 pm

8:30 pm

1:00 pm

3:00 pm

6:30 pm

8:30 pm

2:00 pm

5:00 pm

8:00 pm



For Locations, Times, Tickets and more information:

492.2231 or check out [www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca) or [www.pandas.ualberta.ca](http://www.pandas.ualberta.ca)

## WEEKEND SCORES

## Canada West playoffs records listed

<b>Hockey</b>	<b>Pandas (4-0)</b>
21 February	Pandas 3, Regina 2
22 February	Pandas 5, Regina 2
<b>Basketball</b>	<b>Bears (2-1)</b>
21 February	Bears 89, Dinos 74
22 February	Bears 63, Dinos 78
23 February	Bears 83, Dinos 82 (OT)

## ATHLETIC NOTES

## Basketball

In what was easily the most exciting U of A basketball game of the year, the **Bears** won their best-of-three Canada West divisional final versus the Dinos Sunday, 83-82 in overtime. Alberta takes on Trinity Western in the conference Final Four at UBC next weekend.

The **Pandas** were eliminated from the postseason after losing their best-of-three playoff series to the SFU Clan in two games, 14-15 February.

## Hockey

The **Pandas** captured their fifth Canada West title in six years Saturday when they took the second consecutive match in their best-of-three series versus the Pronghorns at the Drake, 5-2. They'll head to Regina 6-9 March for the national finals.

The **Bears** host their Canada West best-of-three semifinal at the Drake next weekend.

## 'Sports Chatter' with Chris Boutet

So the Oilers tied the Atlanta Thrashers on Sunday, thereby corroborating radio commentator Rod Phillips' assertion that "this may just be rock bottom." Gee, you think so, Rod? It makes me wonder: just how many games do the Oilers need to lose before we make a trade? Trade anyone; I'm not picky. Dan Cleary. Joey Moss. Floyd Whitney. A bucket of pucks. The Oilers just need to trade something before I'm condemned to another playoff season with nothing to do but study for my finals.



GORDON LEE PHOTOGRAPHY, VICTORIA

UBC swimmer Brian Johns, above, set a new world record in the 400m IM last Friday.

## Alberta swimmers without medals after CIS final

DEREK FUREAL  
Sports Writer

Victoria was not friendly to the Bears and Pandas swimming team this weekend. The city was the site of the 2003 CIS swimming finals; twenty U of A representatives returned home without earning any medals.

The story of the weekend was Brian Johns, a UBC swimmer, who set a new world, commonwealth and CIS record Friday in the 400m individual medley (IM). The previous world record of 4:04.24 was reduced nearly two seconds to 4:02.72. Four additional CIS records fell Friday.

At the conclusion of the three-day event, 13 total CIS records were broken, compared to ten at the 2002 finals.

Johns, the 2001-2002 CIS Male Swimmer of the Year, bagged seven victories in seven events.

## It doesn't get much better than this

The basketball Bears earned their bacon when they won their best-of-three Canada West division final versus the Calgary Dinos Sunday, 83-82 in overtime

BRENDAN PROCE  
Sports Editor

Walking down the stairs from the Main Gym to the hoop Bears' locker room, I said to head coach Don Horwood, "You know, off the record, that was one of the most exciting basketball games I've ever seen."

But that was the line, regardless.

Sunday afternoon, the Bears' Mike Melnychuk sunk a foul shot with 0.09 seconds left on the clock to give Alberta an 83-82 victory over the visiting Calgary Dinos in overtime.

"That," said Horwood, nearly yelling, "was guys with guts. If anyone ever needed an example of the character of our team, that was it."

The win gave the Alberta men a 2-1 edge in their best-of-three Canada West division final.

"How many times could we have given up?" asked Horwood. "We were getting so far down on our bench with guys who haven't had major minutes."

"That," said Horwood, nearly yelling, "was guys with guts. If anyone ever needed an example of the character of our team, that was it."

Saturday night, before a minute was spent on the game clock, Canada West Central division MVP Phil Scherer went down with a badly sprained ankle. He played for seven additional minutes, but didn't score and showed up Sunday on crutches. And with eleven minutes left in the first half on Sunday's game, guard Paul Marr left the game with a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL).

What followed Sunday was a rough game, junked in fouls, trash talk and superhuman performances on both sides.

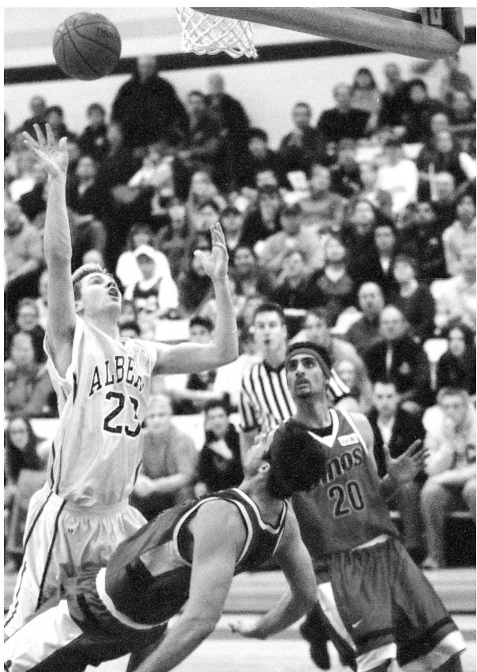
"I knew I had to carry the load," said Melnychuk with genuine humility. The guard scored 34 points Sunday.

"The key was confidence. After my low shooting percentage Saturday night, I went home and did some thinking." On the other end of the court, Dinos guard Whit Hornsberger bagged 32 points, landing approximately two thirds of his shots. Horwood called the performance unbelievable.

On paper, the series seemed like small potatoes for Alberta. The Bears were 4-1 versus the Dinos in conference play this season, and at 15-5, finished the regular season on a four-game winning tear. Friday, Alberta won 89-74.

But when Scherer went down Saturday, it took a game and a half for the Bears to adapt.

"The first half Sunday was like the whole game Saturday," said Melnychuk. After losing 78-63 Saturday, the Bears finished the first half



PATRICK FINLAY

Mike Melnychuk, 23, scored 34 points in the Bears' 83-82 OT victory Sunday.

of Sunday's game down 35-28.

Sunday's second half, like most of the weekend, was directed by officiating that prompted fans to say things like "You are pitiful" repeatedly, with much inflection, towards the court. The game

seasawed in its final regulation minutes, with many whistles, until Calgary led 75-70 with 12.3 seconds left. I wrote "DONE!" in my notepad, in large letters.

Alberta closed it to 75-73 with 8.2 seconds remaining, and a final push down the court saw guard Dean Whalen score a divine basket through heavy traffic, tying the game 75-75, with nearly every person in the building on their feet.

When Melnychuk scored the 83rd point on his first of two foul shots with 0.09 seconds left on the OT clock, the crowd was shifting and quiet, knowing the Bears had won, waiting for Melnychuk to take his second shot.

What followed was a very loud eruption, as loud as it gets for a missed basket.

## PANDAS

There were several Pandas in attendance at the men's weekend series, their team having been eliminated from the postseason in Burnaby on 15 February, losing their second game 73-46 in their best-of-three playoff series versus the SFU Clan.



PATRICK FINLAY

TO WHIT A vibrant on-court personality, Calgary guard Whit Hornsberger, above, scored 32 points Sunday in Calgary's 2-1 series loss to the Bears.



# Puck Pandas seize fifth conference title in six years

BRYAN LEE  
Sports Writer

When someone actually sings the national anthem live, and Guba, one of Alberta's mascots, shows up in between periods, you know you're watching an important set of games.

This weekend, the Pandas defeated the visiting Regina Cougars for the Canada West women's hockey crown.

It was clear that each team placed a lot of value on the series, even though both were headed to the national finals before the weekend began.

"No question, this was probably the most intense weekend of the year. Regina gave us an outstanding battle, but our team rose to the challenge," said veteran forward Lori Shupak about the 3-2 and 5-2 Alberta victories.

The wins were especially gratifying considering both were comebacks, something the undefeated Pandas only had to do once during the regular season. They came back from a two-goal deficit to tie Lethbridge 3-3 on 25 January.

Regina had one-goal leads twice on Friday thanks to dominating the Pandas in shots, but momentum turned halfway through the third period when Shupak tied things up. Former Olympian Carol Scheibel notched the winner a minute later in a scramble in front of the Cougar net.

"I wasn't really happy with our performance on Friday," Canada West Coach of the Year Howie Draper said. "We came out strong, but once the game was tied, it was like we thought things would happen naturally without having to work for it."

Saturday saw no change in intensity, but the Pandas demonstrated more aggression and better puck control.



Regina forced the Pandas to battle from deficits Friday and Saturday, resulting in 3-2, 5-2 Alberta victories.

They dominated the first period, outshooting Regina 18-8, but were still down 2-1 at its end. Forty seconds into the second period, a bad give-away in front of Regina goalie Andrea Charanduk allowed Cougar Taryn Barry to walk in short-handed and tie the game.

Alberta would go ahead 3-2 in the third off a Danielle Bourgeois backhand, one of her three goals on the weekend.

"I was really happy, particularly, with Saturday's effort. We played 60

full minutes and I thought it was the best game we played all season," Draper praised.

"It's probably one of the most exciting wins I've had in my entire career as a Panda," said Shupak, last year's CIS MVP. She hit the post three times in Saturday's contest.

"I played with excellent line mates this year. It's been a great experience and I just tried to enjoy the moment," she said, reflecting on her last home game as a Panda. The forward is the only member of the team in her fifth

and final year of CIS eligibility.

With the victories, the Pandas capture their fifth Canada West title in six years and extend their unbeaten conference play streak to 50 games. They will have this upcoming weekend off as they prepare for the nationals, held 6-9 March in Regina.

"I definitely think this will help us down the stretch. To be able to come from behind is a tough task against any team, let alone Regina. I think it's going to be a big boost for us in the nationals," Draper said.

## CANADA WEST HOCKEY AWARDS

### Women

**1st Team All-Stars**  
Danielle Bourgeois (Canada West MVP)  
Audy Diduck  
Robyn Rittmaster  
Lori Shupak

**2nd Team All-Star**  
Judy Chmilar

**Coach of the Year**  
Howie Draper

### Men

**1st Team All-Stars**  
Steve Shrum  
Jeff Zorn

**2nd Team All-Stars**  
Kevin Marsh  
Blair St. Martin  
Dustin Schwartz

**All-Freshman Team**  
Scott Henkelman

**Coach of the Year**  
Rob Daum

### BEARS

The men earned a bye through the first round of the Canada West playoffs by finishing first in the Mountain division this season, but return to Clare Drake Arena for conference semifinals next weekend, as they play host to the Calgary Dinosaurs.

From Backpack to Briefcase presents:



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## Boost Your Potential

**March 5 2003 @ 12:00pm on SUB Stage**

Squeeze more out of life...but how? CEO and Co-founder of Booster Juice, Dale Wishevan, will share his personal experience surrounding the establishment of the rapidly expanding, Edmonton based, franchise.

## Don't Want To Work For "the Man"? Turn Your Passion Into A Business

**March 5 2003 @ 5:00pm 0-10 Lower Level SUB**

Pro snowboarder to business owner. How did Randy Jaspersen go from Pro snowboarder to Owner of Olive Skateboards and Snowboards. How did Todd Tansowni start up The Summit Snowboard shop.

## When Will The Government Start Taking Your Money?

**March 6 2003 @ 5:00pm 0-10 Lower Level SUB**

Did you know interest accrues on your student loan as soon as you leave full-time study? What else do you need to know? Director of the Student Financial Aid Information Centre, Clare Ard, will provide all the vital information you need to make repaying your student loans as painless as possible.



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A full-page photograph of a male kayaker, Steve Moore, carrying a large grey kayak up a steep, rocky bank. He is wearing a blue helmet, a blue life vest over a white shirt, and black shorts. He is holding a blue and white paddle. The kayak is tilted vertically, and the river with white water rapids is visible in the background. The scene is framed by a blue border.

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*TeamPlayers.ca*

STEVE MOORE, TEAM MEMBER, RACING IN THE C.A.R.T. SERIES.

# THE SETTING SUN OF NIGHT

Words Vivek Sharma Photos Patrick Finlay

# LIFE



AN EMPTY BOT  
TLE  
WOULD  
LEAD TO AN  
EMPTY  
MIND

## Gateway Literary Contest

Do you like writing? How about unicorns, kittens, the Hungry-Hungry Hippos game, and Tony Danza? We here at the Gateway love all those things and that's why we're happy to announce this year's Gateway literary contest. If you've ever wanted to experience the sweet sweet glory of seeing your scrawlings permanently etched on thousands of pieces of newsprint, this is your chance. The contest is open to any student at the U of A who can mingle a few words and winners will be chosen by a crackpot panel of Gateway judges. Victorious submissions will be published in a future issue of this fine publication and we'll even throw in some fabulous (or kind of mediocre) prizes.

Entries will be judged for creativity and style. All pieces must be original content that has not been previously published and not offensive or discriminatory in approach. You can enter once per category, but in as many categories as you like. If you have questions, feel free to contact us. The contest closes 1 March, 2003 so get your write on and send your creations to us at [features@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:features@gateway.ualberta.ca) or drop them off at our office on the third floor of SUB in the Features mail box. Please include your name and e-mail address. Unfortunately, entries will not be returned. Please submit only hard copy prints of photos.

### Categories

- 1 Short Fiction (under 1500 words)
- 2 Really Short Fiction (under 100 words)
- 3 Poetry (Free-verse or not)
- 4 Photo (A picture is worth 1000 words. Take a snapshot of something.)

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**As I FIND MYSELF IN LINE FOR A CLUB ON A FRIDAY NIGHT (I WON'T TELL YOU WHICH ONE), I DO A QUICK SURVEY OF THE GIRLS IN THIGH-HIGH LEATHER BOOTS AND SEE-THROUGH SHIRTS FREEZING MORE THAN JUST THEIR ASSES OFF.**



I try to repress how ridiculous the entire situation truly is. Drunken men with swelling egos and shrinking brains are barely contained by large, upset bouncers too tired to put up a front of being just any longer.

As I wait, men with large wallets and women with large breasts saunter in right before my eyes, and I keep reminding myself that this makes sense, that this is what people my age should want to do. My brain annoyingly asks why, and I threaten to poison it with alcohol unless it smartens up and flies crooked like everyone else.

Eons later the cold, large, upset bouncer takes one look at my face and proceeds to ask me for seven pieces of ID. Putting on my best "I promise not to fuck up your club despite my nationality" interview face, I secretly wonder if even members of the CIA have that much identification. A wave of inferiority crashes over me as I realize that CIA members probably don't have to stand in line like I do, and probably chill at much sweeter CIA clubs.

Seconds before the bouncer's large leather boot is planted firmly between my buttocks, a friend of mine realizes he knows him and suddenly we're in. Much to the chagrin of the scantily clad cougars with tight leather skirts and even tighter leather skin behind me, we are upgraded to the express line, which has the strange property of being invisible to anyone who doesn't know the bouncer. Beautiful.

However, my triumph over discrimination through the use of discrimination is short lived as I am buffeted with a wave of humid, sweaty air the moment I set foot into my hallowed destination. The coat check girls look upset, making unspoken

threats that require generous tips to keep unsaid. She places my black jacket among a sea of black jackets with slight variations, challenging me to object. I certainly do not.

I look down on the floor and realize with amazement that the outside of the club is actually cleaner than the putrid cocktail of alcohol, water, dirt and other unspeakable human fluids that form a slippery film on the floor.

Seeing those around me with some sort of bottle in their hand, I suppose perhaps an empty bottle would lead to an empty mind, and I dutifully step up to the crowded bar. As I wait, a young guy stumbles up next to me, barely able to keep his balance. In a slurred voice he demands another drink, and the bartender sizes him up, grudgingly takes his money and shortchanges him beyond the already outrageous price of alcohol. Disgusted with both participants in the interaction, I look down at Wilfred Laurier in my hand, whose eyes silently dare me to find a better way. I tell him to shut up and banish him to my wallet.

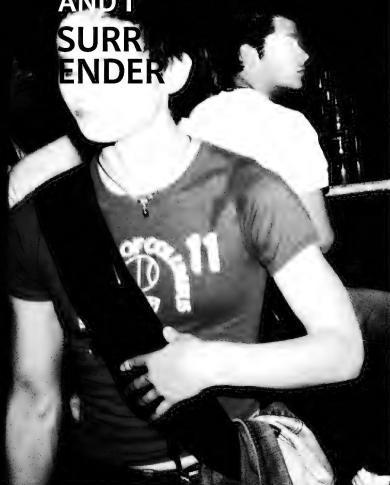
As I make the rounds between songs, I run into an old friend from the past. I automatically open with the traditional "how are you," and she instinctively counters with the classic "not bad." I look deep into her eyes with a no bullshit stare and ask her how she really is, and she cracks a smile and admits that she can't wait to get out of the place. My poker face dissolves as I break into laughter as well and tell her she's not the only one. Moments later, she's swallowed by a seething mass of people that aimlessly saunter around and around the club, much like myself.

Finally, a song that I actually do like erupts from the speakers and a wave of mad anticipation rolls over the crowd, dissipating onto a shore of upset wallflowers in black pants and white shirts doing their best to look simultaneously angry and aloof. As I quietly appreciate the difficulty of this task, the crowd smoothly weaves me into its frenzy and I surrender. For a moment I turn off my brain, and my consciousness is so absorbed that I actually lose track of time for a while.

I look at my watch and figure I have about five more minutes before a fight breaks out between the two most upset looking wallflowers on either side of me. In confusion, I once again ask myself why I'm here, and I dimly recall something about wanting to be with friends, but these thoughts are

drowned under the relentless crash of deep bass beats. I also remind myself that if I don't do these things now, I won't regret them in my future. And with that crowning thought, I walk to the bar, trade a picture of Laurier for some poison, take a deep long swig and get ready to rumble.

**THE CROWD  
SMOOTHLY  
WEAVES ME INTO  
ITS FRENZY  
AND I  
SURRENDER**



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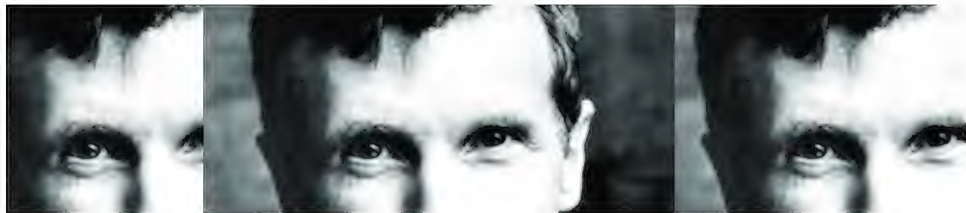
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**SLAVING OVER A QUILL, NIGHT AND DAY** Michael Cunningham, penman of *The Hours* novel, upon which the screenplay and Oscar-nominated film are based.

# The Hours author muses over destiny and uncertainty

## The Hours

Directed by Stephen Daldry  
Written by Michael Cunningham (author)  
and David Hare (screenplay)  
Starring Meryl Streep, Nicole Kidman,  
Julianne Moore, and Ed Harris

**NEIL PARMAR**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When Michael Cunningham first sat down to write *The Hours*, he had no idea it would ultimately consume three straight years of his life.

The theme for the book is simple yet profound: that a woman's life in a single day—in less than 24 hours—is the essence of her entire life. Yet, he says *The Hours*, which is partly based on the suicide of author Virginia Woolf, quickly became an obsession as he spent countless hours researching and fitting characters

into a complicated story arc spanning three eras of time with three different women profiled in each period.

Cunningham's commitment paid off, however, and in 1999 *The Hours* went on to win both the PEN/Faulkner Award and the coveted Pulitzer Prize for Fiction.

"[Being a man] doesn't seem to have in any way impaired what we write in the world, and I just don't believe in set limits on who can write about whom," says Cunningham.

"If there's, let's say, an African American writer who can't write about a white character, or a man can't write about a woman, or a woman can't write about a man, I don't want to do it at all. The further you move from your experiences, of course, the harder it is to get it right, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't try."

In addition to the literary success of *The Hours*, it comes as no surprise that this year's film

adaptation has garnered nine Oscar nominations and resurrected Cunningham's characters. While he will be attending next month's ceremony, Cunningham wasn't nominated; David Hare, who transformed the manuscript into a screenplay, was nominated instead.

Despite the daunting task of translating the dense literary work for the big screen, both versions of *The Hours* tell the same story of three very unique women who share the feeling that they have been living their lives for someone else.

First, there's Virginia Woolf (Nicole Kidman), a renowned author attempting to write *Mrs Dalloway* in the 1920s while she battles bouts of severe depression. Then there's Laura Brown (Julianne Moore), who's just starting to read *Mrs Dalloway* while struggling to accept her identity as a young housewife in post-Second World War America. Finally, Clarissa Vaughan (Meryl

Streep), becomes the modern-day mirror image of Mrs Dalloway as she plans to throw a party for her friend and former lover, Richard (Ed Harris). The three stories inevitably, though unpredictably, intertwine and reflect the collective experiences of female joy and suffering, life and death. Ultimately, each character must decide whether to be readers or participants in their own life stories.

Cunningham says there's a special double meaning behind the title of his work. Originally, *The Hours* was Woolf's working title for *Mrs Dalloway*, but as she got further into writing the novel she "left this title behind for the likes of me," he muses.

"In her conception, as well as my own, *The Hours* is a reference to the fact that who knows what's going to happen to us. We all know we're not here forever, but here's right now and it's a gift."

## THE DOWNFALL OF WESTERN CIVILIZATION

We can't do anything to curb the rash of aspiring slatterns (Christina and company, for example), but we can make it even smuttier. I'm waiting for widespread cross-marketing of pornography and the ingénue.

"Big deal," you say. Madonna did it back in the day. True, but by the time she released *Sex*, she was spavined—a gap-toothed, wrinkly, has-been. We need an infusion of new talent: high-C achieving, curvaceous, and natural beauties.

The industry is in a lull; they aren't raking in the dough like they used to. MP3 exchanging is too awesome to quell, and with the calibre of popular music being what it is, the record companies would be foolish to pass up this potential gold mine. I think Garth Brooks would approve; he's always going on about used CDs taking money away from artists. A move like this would certainly entice people to hold on to their CDs.

Sure, Tipper Gore'll cry foul, but the ghost of Frank Zappa will speak on behalf of artistic freedom. Middle America's ostensible horror will turn out to be relief (think of the economic boom). I haven't forgotten the intelligentsia; imagine the debates it will spark—enlightened femala (and whipped males) from the four corners of the globe demanding that sexist consumption patterns be abolished.

ALEX KONYE

*The Downfall of Western Civilization* is a semi-regular feature where we tell you what on earth is wrong with the entertainment industry. Sure, there are a lot of things wrong, but some things chap our hides. *DWC* relieves the chapping.

## Old School will make you chuckle

### Old School

Directed by Todd Phillips  
Starring Will Ferrell, Luke Wilson, Juliette Lewis,  
and Vince Vaughn  
Now playing

**DANIEL KASZOR**  
Circulation Manager

Right now, you're probably in the middle of studying for midterms, writing papers, stressing about marks or wondering where your life is going to go after university. But when you're in your 30s, in a boring dead-end job, married to a person you hate more than life itself, eating Cheetos and getting fat, you'll probably look back on your University days with rose-coloured glasses, when all the girls were easy, all the guys were hot and everybody partied like it was 1999. That fantasy is exactly what *Old School* tries to make a reality.

Mitch (Luke Wilson) is living a normal life, until he returns home early from a business trip and finds his girlfriend (Juliette Lewis) having kinky gangbangs in his absence. Distraught, he moves out and finds a new place on a college campus. Now on his own, Mitch's buddies Beanie (Vince Vaughn) and Frank (Will Ferrell) throw him a huge party. This evokes the ire of the dean (Jeremy Piven) and soon Mitch needs to make his on-campus residence school-related.

Beanie decides it's time to start a fraternity. *Old School* isn't the funniest movie ever and it isn't quite as classic as Todd Phillips' other college comedy *Road Trip*. However, it does rise above most of the schlock that pervades other college/gross-out/teen comedies. This is not *Slackers*, thank goodness. The trio of friends at the core of the film has a definite comedic chemistry,



**FROM SNL TO BYOB** Will Ferrell tries to relive his youth in *Old School*.

and the writing is just good enough to keep the improbable and downright stupid situations the characters get into from being unforgivably lame.

Despite what the trailers suggest, *Old School* does not star Will Ferrell. Ferrell is an integral part of the trio of friends, but much like Tom Green's contribution to *Road Trip*, the audience isn't overwhelmed by his presence; it's because the movie focuses more on the friendship and chemistry between characters and not individual performances. You may think Luke Wilson and Vince Vaughn are slummers in here for a pay-day role, but having able actors in these parts actually

helps the movie.

Despite being more than watchable, the film isn't perfect. While there are many laugh-out-loud moments, there were no laugh-so-hard-you-explosively-defecate-and-clean-out-your-colon moments. It could be because they didn't push their R rating very hard (it's obvious that they shot this with the intention of it being able to be edited for television or airplanes or whatever), or maybe it was the fairly lifeless and gratuitous Snoop Dogg cameo.

Even though it isn't a classic, *Old School* is way better than you expect it to be—worth seeing in a first-run theatre.

# Dark Blue makes for a 'big messy smoke-filled jamboree'

## Dark Blue

Directed by Ron Shelton  
Starring Kurt Russell, Ving Rhames,  
and Scott Speedman  
Now playing

JOHN WHELAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Ah, the delicious ecstasy of watching LA burn to the ground. Of course, those wacky Americans had to ruin it by attempting to put a movie around it.

Kurt Russell plays Detective Eldon Perry, a corrupt cop with the elite Special Investigations Squad (SIS). He and his rookie partner, Bobby Keough (Speedman), have already survived one shooting inquiry after Keough is charged with use of excessive force. Now that the rookie is a member of the old boys' club, they're ready to try their luck again.

Their next assignment is a high-profile quadruple homicide; apparently, someone beat them to the record for shooting deaths in a 24-hour period, and they're a little jealous. Also, it involves an intriguing pair of culprits: one black, one white, who fit the descriptions of a couple of stool pigeons belonging to Van Meter, the head of the SIS. Of course, Meter takes an enormous dump on their heads when Perry suggests they should go get 'em, and directs them to chase a couple lowlife, albeit innocent, scum bags under their plate.

As they "work" the case, and Perry

teaches Keough how to be a good/bad cop, Assistant Chief Holland (Rhames) is waging an internal war with the SIS, which to him smells like a big chunk of down-home, good ol' boy, racism, bigotry and corruption. The stench of corruption is too much for him, and he's ready to go all the way to fumble.

All these ingredients twist and turn into one big messy smoke-filled jamboree, complete with gangsters jumping around all over the place and deliberate killings of the innocent by both sides, all set to the coolest soundtrack.

If you see *Dark Blue*, prepare to be terribly disappointed. Based on a novel by James Ellroy (*LA Confidential*), the film takes place during the Rodney King trial of April 1992, and despite a promising beginning enhanced by footage of the actual event, you may find yourself asking if the original story was as detached from its setting as the celluloid version. The action skims over the surface of the setting, but never capitalizes on it; it could have taken place at any time.

The disappointment doesn't stop there. The film very quickly falls into the Hollywood trap, like the script was written using a glossary of over-used movie phrases. The actors' delivery isn't anything spectacular, either. Horrific performances from everyone (yes, even Ving Rhames) perpetuate the weariness of the dialogue. Even the soundtrack disappoints; off to a good start with some old school OG



ESCAPE FROM LA Kurt Russell offers a lackluster performance in *Dark Blue*.

shit like NWA, it quickly devolves into a stock Hollywood score.

So, does *Dark Blue* deserve your time and money? Not really. One might be better off reading the book. Perhaps if

the film were two hours of footage of LA burning to the ground, it would be worth it. Aw, hell, it would be worth ten times as much! Ahhh, LA burning to the ground...



## Tangiers

Hot New Spirits  
Sonic Union Records  
www.sonicunion.com

SWEETHEYANNE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Boy, have I got news for you. Canada has yet another answer to the passing mod phenomenon and its name is Tangiers.

Think Hot Hot Heat—Tangiers are equally pretty but half as polished. These are not bad things. In fact, throughout the album there are tiny spaces where the melody takes over and I can't help but shake it.

**Think Hot Hot Heat—Tangiers are equally pretty but half as polished.**

*Hot New Spirits* is Tangiers' debut album, and while signed to the Sonic Union label, Tangiers must feel pressure to deliver as the label has housed such legends as the Jesus Lizard and the Pixies.

As far as rock 'n' roll is concerned, they don't disappoint. However, there is no evidence of a revolution in the punk-rock guitars. Good for car rides and mix-tapes, Tangiers are Canadian kids done good.

## Decision of the Discipline Interpretation and Enforcement Board



### APPEAL AGAINST CHIEF RETURNING OFFICER'S RULING (VOTE 2003)

DATE: Thursday February 13, 2003

#### D.I.E. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William McBeath, Chair  
Lucas Lau  
Jason Tobias  
Vincent Tong  
Perry Grewal

#### APPEAL DETAILS:

Appellant: Mat Brechtel  
Respondent: Alexandra Taylor, Chief Returning Officer (CRO)

#### SUMMARY OF ALLEGATION AND RESPONSE:

According to the CRO, Mr. Brechtel violated the pre-campaigning period sections of Bylaw 2100 in his interview to CJSR, which aired at 5:00 p.m. on February 10, 2003. Mr. Brechtel has appealed the decision of the CRO, stating that in his opinion, the decision of the CRO should be overturned as no pre-campaigning took place, and hence there was no violation of Section 35 of Bylaw 2100.

#### DECISION:

Sections 35-37 of Bylaw 2100 outline the rules and regulations of "pre-campaigning". Section 124 of Bylaw 2100 outlines the rules and regulations of "violations and complaints".

It is the decision of D.I.E. Board that pre-campaigning did occur when Mr. Brechtel answered the CJSR interviewer's question. Mr. Brechtel was aware that answering the question might constitute a case of pre-campaigning, but nevertheless chose to answer the question.

D.I.E. Board felt that it was important to note that the response to the question was not given to an individual student, but to a media organization - CJSR. D.I.E. Board feels that in supplying an answer to this media organization, the distinct possibility existed that multiple individuals, including undergraduate students, may have heard Mr. Brechtel's answer and have been influenced by his comments. In this case, it is fortunate that

the incident was confined to a limited number of people, but this was more through chance than any action on the part of Mr. Brechtel.

D.I.E. Board also believes that the agreement made between Mr. Brechtel and CJSR to transfer the responsibility of ensuring that Mr. Brechtel's comments were in compliance with Bylaw 2100, sections 35-37 to the interviewer was not satisfactory. CJSR is not governed by Bylaw 2100, and hence cannot be assigned this responsibility.

D.I.E. Board wishes to stress to all candidates that it is a candidate's responsibility to ensure that they comply with all the requirements and regulations listed in Bylaw 2100. Candidates should err on the side of caution if confronted with possible breaches.

However, D.I.E. Board also takes into consideration the regulations listed in Section 124 of Bylaw 2100.

#### Section 124 states:

Where a breach has occurred, regardless of the cause or the intent of the parties involved, and that breach has provided an unfair advantage to a campaign, the C.R.O. shall assign a penalty that:

- fully counter-balances any unfair advantage gained
- penalizes the campaign for committing a violation
- is of the same type or character as the advantage which was gained

Once it is determined that a breach has occurred, as is the situation in this case, the C.R.O. is required to assign a penalty that fully counter-balances any unfair advantage gained. In this case, D.I.E. Board does not feel that the assigned penalty is appropriate to the level of the breach committed by Mr. Brechtel.

Therefore, D.I.E. Board has made the following decision:

The ruling of the Chief Returning Officer will be upheld, but the penalty for the committed breach will be reduced to a fine of ten (10) dollars.

The decision of the D.I.E. Board was unanimous.

The Discipline, Interpretation and Enforcement (D.I.E.) Board functions as the judicial branch of the Students' Union, and is responsible for interpreting and enforcing all Students' Union legislation. If anyone has any questions regarding the D.I.E. Board, feel free to contact the Chair, Chris Samuel, at [dieboard@u.ualberta.ca](mailto:dieboard@u.ualberta.ca).





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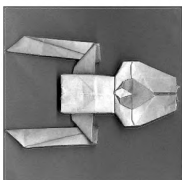
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## SITE UNSEEN



[www.happymagpie.com/swdiagrm.htm](http://www.happymagpie.com/swdiagrm.htm)

ALEX KONYE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

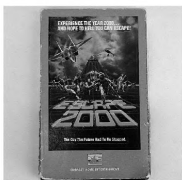
People who don't know what to do with their hands in public have no doubt considered taking up smoking just to do the prop aspect. I urge you folks not to do anything so foolish.

Instead, visit the coolest site of all time: the Star Wars Origami Page will give you the folding know-how to tackle some of the Lore's most endearing vehicles.

Who wouldn't love pitting the Millennium Falcon against Slave One in a cosmic showdown that saves the galaxy? Try your hand at R2, a Naboo fighter, or the seldom-seen but terribly cool Tie Bomber; it's all here. Surprise a date with an impromptu gift made from a paper placemat or some loose newspaper.

Whether you're waiting for a bus or just standing around looking pathetic, folding these beauties will instantly give you the approval and cachet you so desperately need.

## CULTURA OBSCURA



Escape 2000

ADAM HOUSTON  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

What's the best way to Escape 2000? Set your movie in 1995. It seems my recollections of my formative years are a little

hazy, we don't really recall much from our time at the B.F. Skinner Re-educations and behavioural modification centre.

Apparently, we must have spent our free time escaping from laser jets that chased us through the set from Tron. But that's what happens when "individuality is considered offensive, the hunt is on, and man is the deadliest prey of all." And when that happens, "the ultimate punishment is a marionette in which the evil Enforcers find sport in tracking down and killing their own pre-selected targets."

This alternate universe, where BETA, being the clearly superior home video medium was still in widespread use, had Steve Railsback as a legitimate star, rather than merely the Colin Farrell of 1983 (or 1981, depending on which part of the box you read).

Anyway, what matters is that it was "The Day The Future Had To Be Stopped." Unlike today, which is the day the movie needs to be started. As soon as we find a functional BETA machine...



**We're a Happy Family:**  
A Tribute to the Ramones

Various Artists  
Columbia  
[www.columbiarecords.com](http://www.columbiarecords.com)

JOHN WHELAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Did anyone have the opportunity to see the Ramones live? If you saw them as Infest in 1993, you'll know that the Ramones' greatest strength was their energy, which they derived through simple song structures and speed, not the complexity of their music.

That said, a successful cover for a Ramones song requires respect for the original. Too much innovation will just ruin it. So will sucking the life out of it.

The best songs are those that keep it simple; the worst songs try to make something totally different. The majority of the album falls somewhere in between, like U2's "Beat on the Brat," which would be great if it weren't for Bono's whiny, later-stages-smoker vocals. Ditto Rob Zombie's long, drawn-out styling of "Blitzkrieg Bop."

Special recognition goes to Marilyn Manson, who took "The KKK Took My Baby Away" and crushed it into the leather-bound confines of his new thing, the "goth-gangsta" motif.

## ATTENTION! UNIVERSITY GRADUATES



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## FREE STUFF



Rapper DMX has teamed up with the kung fu stylings of Jet Li in *Cradle 2 the Grave*. Tony Falt (DMX) must save his daughter from her kidnappers, but he'll require the skills of a Taiwanese Intelligence officer (Li), and a bunch of precious stones to get her back.

You and a guest can attend the preview screening of *Cradle 2 the Grave* on Wednesday, 26 February at 7pm at SilverCity. All you need to do is come up to 3:04 SUB on Tuesday after 1pm and tell the Entertainment Editor which three actors from this film also starred in *Exit Wounds*?

A correct answer scores you passes to the show. There's a limited amount of passes, so do your research quickly, and good luck!

Opens in theatres on Friday, 28 February

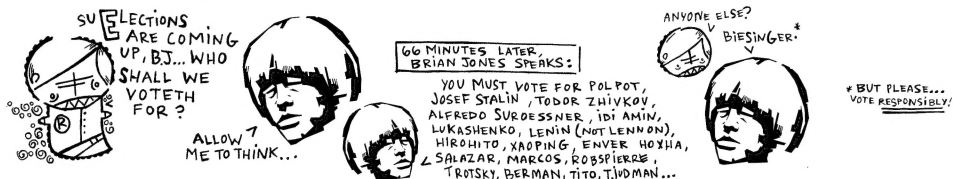
**THE GATEWAY**

Kickin' it old skool since old skool was invented—in 1910

## COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



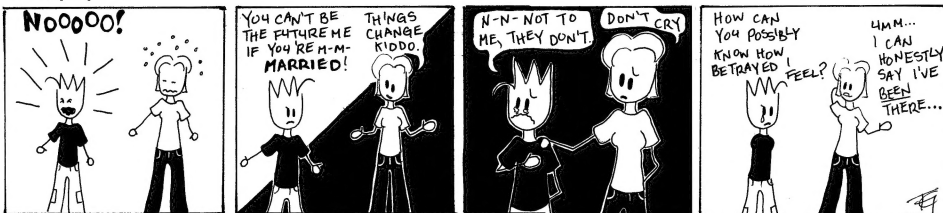
## BAD ADVICE FROM BRIAN JONES by Raymond Biesinger



## WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS by Eric Uhlrich



## HEYBEN by Tracy Greene



## ANNA by Megan Simko



Council (GFC) Standing Committees and  
 bers will explore on April 30, 2003.  
 encouraged to apply now to serve on any  
 of 1, 2003, and ending April 30, 2004. (Some  
 re-election to serve additional terms.)  
**Wednesdays**  
 anning issues.  
**FER (CAAST) - 9:00 am/3rd Thursday**  
 college are encouraged to apply.  
**Saturday**  
 and Residence Community Standards.  
**Sunday**  
 ings, use of land, parking and  
 tion and long-range plans.  
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 by Thursday, March 6, 2003. Students  
 by e-mail: gary.gerry@ualberta.ca) for  
 reference.  
 an undergraduate student who  
 Mr. Garby Bodnar, Acting Secretary  
 a graduate student and an  
 FC at the time of initial appointment).  
 See these requirements and are  
 currently under review.